

Hibatullah reportedly angered over reversal of internet ban

The teachers will request the lawmakers to raise this issue on the floor of the provincial assembly.

The action committee also decided that if the government didn't withdraw both the decisions

Students Protest BS Program Termination, block Main Road

HAIRAN MOMAND

Mohman: approximately 60 to 70 students from Government Degree College Ekkaighund and Bako Degree College staged a protest in Tehsil Ekkaighund Bazaar, Mohmand District, against the termination of the BS program. The protest, led under the supervision of ISF President Zohab Khan, involved blocking the main road and halting all traffic.



the BS program.

Students' Demands:

1. Immediate restoration of

2. Regular attendance by all subject teachers.

3. Clearly organized and

4. Measures to improve education quality.

ANP President Malik Saifullah

warned, "When the door to education is closed, youth may be forced towards violence, which is disastrous for the region." Malik Jahangir Khan criticized the unequal education system, stating, "BS continues in Punjab but is terminated here there should be One Pakistan, One Education System."

Following the protest, Assistant Commissioner Lower Mohmand Awas Khan, DSP Dalfaz Khan, Tehsildar Bazar Khaliq, and Acting Nazim-e-Aala Shahzada arrived to negotiate with student representatives. The road was resumed at 11:35 AM after successful talks.

AC Awas Khan assured students that their demands would be addressed promptly by meeting with the college principal to restore normal academic activities.

Delays in Protection Wall on the banks of the River Tochi is unbearable: Nation Humzoni

HAJI MUISTABA

Miranshah: leaders of the Nation Humzoni expressed serious concern over the continuous delay in the construction of a protection wall approved on the banks of the river Tochi at a joint press conference, saying that no longer waiting, Malik Habibullah said, "We are grateful to all the authorities and institutions who approved this protection wall, but the delay in practical work poses a threat to the public," Malik Timur Shah said that the provincial government, state institutions and civil administration demanded that the contractor be appointed immediately for the project. Former provincial



candidate Hanif Dawar said that the Irrigation Department should issue a work order as soon as possible. We have no objection to the Nation Humzoni with a particular contractor, the goal is just the beginning of timely work. The leaders of the nation said that if immediate steps were not taken, the flood or river erosion could be severely affected, which would be responsible for the concerned parties. At the end of the press conference, he hoped that the government would take immediate action with seriousness.

Takht Bhai Students Protest for Second Day Against College Privatization

IZZAT MUHAMMAD KHILWAK

Takht bhai: Hundreds of students from Government Degree College Takht Bhai continued their protest against the closure of classes and proposed privatization for the second day. On Tuesday, the students reached the Tehsil Complex, where they blocked Malakand Road for over an hour and chanted slogans against the provincial government. After successful negotiations with the Assistant Commissioner Takht Bhai and DSP, the road was opened. On Tuesday, the students of Degree College Takht Bhai staged a strong protest demonstration on Malakand Road against the proposed privatization of educational institutions. The protesters chanted slogans against the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government's decision to privatize the school. They later marched to block Malakand Road for over an hour, causing long queues of vehicles. Addressing



the gathering, Jamil Talba Islam's Provincial General Secretary Hafiz Furmanullah, Pakistan SP's Hamid Khan, PPP leader Shaikat Khan Gunjai, Takht Bhai Bar's Vice President Mian Shah Hussain Advocate, and others said that privatization of educational institutions would shut the doors of education

for poor students and most government employees would become jobless. They demanded that the government immediately withdraw its decision and take practical steps to keep education accessible to the public. The students warned that if their demands were not met, they would widen the scope of their

protest. They rejected the proposed privatization of educational institutions, saying that if the government cannot provide necessary facilities and privileges to students and institutions, it should at least refrain from privatization, as it would deprive common and poor students of their fundamental right to education. They emphasized that education should be considered a service, not a business, and the state should ensure the provision of free and quality education as per its constitutional responsibility. They threatened that if the government does not reconsider its decision, student organizations and academic circles would launch a strong protest movement against it.

Later Assistant Commissioner Adnan Mumtaz Khattak and DSP Abid Afrid held successful negotiations with student leaders, after which the protesters dispersed peacefully and the road was opened to traffic.

Kurram Police Arrest Drug Smuggler, Seize Hashish, Weapon, and Motorcycle

AZMAT ALIZAI

PARACHINAR : Kurram Police Station Sanoor arrested an active drug smuggler, 621 grams of hashish, a pistol with cartridge and a Honda motorcycle recovered from the possession of the accused, a case registered. Investigation is underway.



According to the details, on the specific direction of District Police Officer Karim Malli, Habib Khan, Kurram police have been conducting successful operations in important places across the district. During the search of the motorcyclist, Mushtaq Hussain, Waheed Ali, Ghulam Sikha Hassan Ali Kale, 621 grams of

Protest in Jamrud Demands Release of Senator Mushtaq Ahmed and Expresses Solidarity with Gaza

ZAHID MALAGORI

Jamrud: A protest demonstration was held to demand the release of Senator Mushtaq Ahmed and to express solidarity with the people of Gaza.



The protest took place at the Bab-e-Khyber in the Jamrud area of Khyber District, calling for the release of Senator Mushtaq Ahmed and expressing solidarity with the oppressed people of Gaza.

Prominent figures of the Kokikhel, Birke, including Malik Nazim Ahmed Kokikhel, Tarkat Afridi, Malik Abdul Zahir, and Chajani, and Jamaat-e-Islami leaders Shah Faiz Afridi, Zia-ul-Haq, Qasim Afridi, Gul Muhammad, Muhsin Shah, as well as President of Tanzeem-e-Naujawan Abdul Jaleel Afridi, along with many other citizens, participated in the protest.

While addressing the gathering, the speakers stated that former Senator Mushtaq Ahmed has always been a voice for the poor and oppressed people of the country. They said he participated in the Global Samudh Flotilla against Israel, wearing a shroud on his head (a symbol of resistance), and he supported the oppressed people of Gaza. During this mission, Israeli forces arrested him and imprisoned him. The participants demanded that the Government of Pakistan take immediate and effective diplomatic action to secure the release of former Senator Mushtaq Ahmed, as he is a prisoner of Pakistan and a true representative of the oppressed people.

The speakers further said that Mushtaq Ahmed always raised his voice for the rights of the people of Khyber District, whether the injustice was against the people of Khyber District, or against the people of Gaza, or against the people of Israel, or against the people of Palestine. They also recalled the tragic incident in Tihar from where he was on a voyage in the Global Samudh Flotilla. Moreover, they added that Mushtaq Ahmed had peacefully departed with humanitarian aid through the flotilla to help end Gaza's two-year siege, but was arrested and imprisoned by Israeli forces.

78-Year Water Crisis Resolved in Tank City with New Solar-Powered System

KIFAAT PARACHA

Tank: With the efforts of Deputy Commissioner, Tank Tanveer Khattak, the 78-year-old problem of drinking water in Tank city has been solved.

After 3 days, the entire city will continue to get clean drinking water at all times. According to the details, with the efforts of Deputy Commissioner Tank Tanveer

Ahmed Khattak, the provincial government has been working on a comprehensive plan for several months to solve the long-standing problem of drinking water in Tank city. A large pond with a capacity of 120,000 gallons was constructed along the city water tank. Several tube wells have been solarized in Sheikh Bagh adjacent to the city, from where the said large

pond was connected through a 10-inch pipeline. From there, after storing the water, it will be lifted up by machines into the giant tank there and supplied through pre-installed pipelines. In order to make the water supply system self-sufficient, another large solar system has reached Tank for installation, eliminating dependence on electricity.

According to the officials,

the city water tank. The tank will be filled 3 times in 24 hours, as a result of which water will continue to be supplied to the citizens with full pressure. By installing a solar system and activating it in the next few days, the problem of water shortage in the tank city will be overcome to a great extent, while work is also underway to install more new tube wells.

Pakistan's Youngest Taekwondo Star Ayesha Ayaz Wins Gold and Silver in Indonesia

WAHID ZAMAN

SWAT: Pakistan's Youngest Athlete Shines at Indonesia International Taekwondo Championship. Ayesha Ayaz Wins Gold and Silver for the Nation.



Pakistan's youngest Taekwondo champion, Ayesha Ayaz, has once again brought pride to the nation by winning one gold medal and one silver medal at an international Taekwondo event held in Indonesia. Her remarkable performance has lifted the name of Pakistan high on the global sports stage, earning admiration and respect from across the country.

Ayesha Ayaz, who has previously represented Pakistan in several international competitions, showcased exceptional skill and determination throughout the tournament. Competing against top international athletes, she proved her mettle and displayed the spirit of sportsmanship that defines Pakistan's youth. Her victory not only highlights her personal excellence but also serves as an

inspiring reminder of what Pakistani women can achieve through hard work and dedication. In her conversation with the media, Ayaz expressed immense joy and gratitude, saying, "I am extremely happy and thankful to Allah Almighty for this success. This achievement is the result of my

celebrate her success with the entire nation, dedicating her medals to the people of Pakistan. "This victory belongs to my country and my people," she said with pride.

Ayesha Ayaz also serves as the Global Ambassador of Metrix Pakistan, an initiative that promotes youth empowerment and positive representation of Pakistan on international platforms. During her remarks, she thanked Metrix Pakistan's Founder and CEO, Hassan Nisar, for his unwavering support and encouragement throughout her journey. She stated that Hassan Nisar and his team have always stood by young athletes like her, helping them represent Pakistan with confidence and dignity at the global level.

Speaking to the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP), Ayaz said, "I am very happy and honored to raise Pakistan's flag once again. This award is dedicated to my beloved homeland and every Pakistani who believes in the potential."

Meanwhile, in Dera, a fierce exchange of fire erupted between police and unidentified armed men near the Dera Khil clan of the Zali tribe, from the Azam Warsak area. The group alleged that she was arrested based on "timely intelligence by the TIA."

However, the constable was later released on the guarantee of

Cop martyred in Darra attack, another freed

APP NEWS

DI KHAN: In two separate incidents of violence, one police constable was martyred and another was freed in a gun attack on a checkpoint in Darra Adam Khel, while another officer released under conditions.

According to police sources, unidentified militants launched a search operation on a police checkpoint in the Tor Chappar area of Darra Adam Khel, Kohat district. As a result of

the firing, one police constable embraced martyrdom. The attack was managed to escape after a successful law enforcement agencies immediately launched a search operation in the surrounding area to trace the assailants.

The martyred officer's funeral prayers were offered with full official honours, after which his body was taken to his native village for burial.

Meanwhile, in South Waziristan, a police official who had

been abducted was conditionally released. According to a video statement reportedly issued by the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), the group claimed to have detained Constable Challa Khan, son of Khatool, belonging to the Dasl Khil clan of the Zali tribe, from the Azam Warsak area. The group alleged that she was arrested based on "timely intelligence by the TIA."

However, the constable was later released on the guarantee of

5.2-magnitude quake jolts KP's Swat, Chitral districts: PMD

APP NEWS

Jolts from an earthquake of magnitude 5.2 were felt in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Chitral and Swat districts on Tuesday, the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) said.

The quake, measuring a depth of 198 kilometers, originated in the Hindu Kush region of Afghanistan at 10:15 PM said in a statement.

The development comes just days after a 4.3-magnitude earthquake was recorded in the Pattan tehsil of KP's

Lower Kohistan district. Pakistan falls on three major tectonic plates — the Arabian, Euro-Asian and Indian — which create five seismic zones under the country. The intersection of multiple fault lines means that tectonic movements remain a frequent occurrence in the region. Earlier this month, a 3.2-magnitude tremor was felt in parts of Karachi, with its centre 7km north-west of the Malir area.

Editor : Shamim Shahid

Unless ending political meddling, Good Governance impossible

Though Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sardar Ali Amin Khan Gandapur has unveiled the Good Governance Roadmap "a two-year implementation plan to improve public service delivery and institutional efficiency through an in-built reward and accountability system in government departments," Chief Minister Ali Shah is striving for its implementation but how it is possible when political meddling in affairs of all public affairs department now touching its peak. While unveiling the road, Chief Minister had remarked, "there is always room for improvement and learning." On such grounds, Chief Secretary Syed Shahab Ali Shah while chairing a Review meeting couple of days back, instructed the Finance and Planning & Development departments to monitor the governance roadmap initiatives separately to ensure their timely completion. In previous July

during unveiling of the Road Map, Chief Secretary Shahab Ali Shah presented the roadmap and said it was anchored around three priority pillars, good governance, public security and smart development encompassing interventions in twelve governance, one security and three development domains. According to Chief Secretary, the high impact areas include health, education, social protection, economic uplift, infrastructure development, agriculture, energy, tourism and digitisation. "In the health sector, the roadmap will seek to upgrade 250 basic health units and rural health centres into 247 maternal care facilities with provision of essential medicines at hospitals, while 54 Category-D hospitals will be outsourced through public-private partnership to enhance management and improve services," he said. Though in the inaugural session of the road map, Chief Secretary emphasized, "appoint-

ments and postings will be performance-based subject to monthly reviews." But the ground reality is very different whereas almost posting and transfers in government departments from a class four employee and junior teacher till top level manager i.e. Director General made on political grounds. Besides education, the Road Map focuses on health sector where the roadmap will seek to upgrade 250 basic health units and rural health centres into 247 maternal care facilities with provision of essential medicines at hospitals, while 54 Category-D hospitals will be outsourced through public-private partnership to enhance management and improve services." In Education Sector, Mr. Shah has earlier hinted that the education reform ensured the reduction of out-of-school children by 50 per cent and up gradation of learning outcomes in public schools. In this respect, he said 1,500 schools

would be outsourced to improve quality of education, while higher education would be realigned with market needs via launch of industry-relevant degree programs and internships. Besides health and education the mega development projects would be completed on priority basis for quick public impact including reshaping of Islamabad Khan's Peshawar New General Bus Stand and Northern Bypass, while in the tourism sector, 50 new tourist destinations and 25 sites would be developed. Couple of days back, Chief Secretary has reviewed the progress on road map in Education sector whereas he was informed about the preliminary steps in this respect. However, the participants have shown disappointment over the progress, therefore, The Chief Secretary directed the Education Department to devise a plan for overcoming classroom shortages in primary schools,

specifying the resources to be used so that the government may take informed decisions and complete the process with a set timeframe. He further instructed the Finance and Planning & Development departments to monitor the governance roadmap initiatives separately to ensure their timely completion. Mo one can deny the fact that government officers departments especially Health, Education, Security and others are losing its trusts and credibility due to increasing political meddling. Instead, following stereo-type bureaucratic traditions, Chief Secretary must initiate steps for discouraging political meddling in affairs of all such departments especially health, education, police and revenue. Ending political involvement in posting and transfers, and disposing of other official matters could easily help in the reform of the Good Governance road map, evolved in previous July.

Trump's Peace Plan: Threats, Dictates, and Dialogue

From Khyber to the Global Stage: A Rappler's Unlikely Journey

BARRISTER USMAN ALI

Today's news tells us that more than 70,000 Palestinians have been killed since October 2023, entire neighborhoods have been reduced to rubble, and hospitals struggle to treat the wounded amid collapsing infrastructure. Families are displaced on a massive scale, food and medicine are scarce, and the humanitarian crisis is worsening by the day. Into this devastation, U.S. President Donald Trump has introduced a sweeping twenty-point peace plan, describing it as the path to ending Israel's two-year war in Gaza. The initiative has generated both cautious hope and deep skepticism, reflecting the dual reality of opportunity and ongoing brutality.

For the first time after the announcement of Trump's plan, there are flickers of progress. Israel and Hamas have entered into indirect talks in Egypt aimed at exploring ways to implement the proposal. These discussions, though fragile and tentative, are seen as a rare diplomatic initiative whose purpose is to resolve every dispute at

once, but to identify steps to phase in humanitarian relief, and a framework for governance. Hamas has already offered conditional acceptance to agree to release hostages through a defined mechanism, endorsing the creation of a technocratic Palestinian administration, and signaling readiness for negotiations on unresolved issues. It has, however, resisted immediate disarmament or the full surrender of its influence. Even so, the fact that it is engaging at all marks a potential turning point.

But the situation on the ground tells a darker story. Israeli forces continue to carry out daily operations that kill civilians, even in hundreds of humanitarian workers whose only mission is to deliver food, water, and medical supplies to the hungry and shelterless, have been detained or obstructed. Aid convoys remain restricted, hospital reports show a dearth of even basic medicines, and the population suffers under the weight of Israeli military hostility undermines the very framework of Trump's plan, feeding doubts about Israel's future intentions. Netanyahu's dramatic words with meaningful restraint.

Trump himself has contributed to the contradictions. When announcing his plan with Prime Minister Netanyahu, he leaned on deadlines, ultimatums, and threats of "complete obliteration" if Hamas refused to turn itself in. Netanyahu, for his part, publicly embraced the plan but

in private refused to state Israel's core conditions, particularly Hamas's full disarmament, are non-negotiable. His hardline coalition allies, fiercely oppose any arrangement that leaves Hamas with even symbolic power, placing his government in a precarious position. The result is a peace initiative that risks being treated less as a framework for compromise and more as a dictate to be enforced.

This moment, however, still carries possibility. Hamas's partial acceptance and the indirect talks in Cairo show that the door, however narrow, has not closed. Trump has presented himself as a peacemaker, and in this case, he does have leverage. But leverage alone is not enough. If the Israeli government in a precarious position from Washington and Tel Aviv, it will collapse as so many others have before. Hostilities shaped over decades of resistance, are not people who accept imposed settlements. Last year, a peace plan from Washington and Afghanistan, externally imposed deals crumbled as soon as pressure faded. By contrast, the last peace plan places like Northern Ireland and South Africa came through only when the parties agreed to an end to hostilities and impartial mediation. All sides felt they had a stake and a voice. That is precisely what is missing here.

History makes the choice plain. Coerced settlements rarely last. The world's weary declarations that lead nowhere. What it demands now is a change of heart. The hungry, the desperate, the innocent, the hostages, and the foundations of peace. History will not reward Trump for how many conflicts he claimed to end. It will measure him by whether his plan for Gaza brought genuine peace to the people who have suffered far too long.

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SHAHID KHAN



In the mountains of Khyber, far from Pakistan's usual cultural centers, a new voice is emerging that challenges stereotypes and expands the definition of music. From the tribal belt, Alamshar, among the first known rap artists from the region, is steadily building recognition by combining his personal struggles with an evolving sound.

His story begins in an environment where music was not considered a traditional pursuit. With little encouragement and virtually no access to professional studios, the once-seemingly stacked against him. Yet, he pressed forward, relying on digital tools to create his own sound. Today, with a growing fan base, he is steadily building recognition by combining his personal struggles with an evolving sound.

Over time, this self-guided approach began to pay off. His music, initially crafted in modest settings, found its

way onto digital platforms where it began to attract national attention. Listeners connected with the honesty of his words and the rawness of his delivery. His music, a blend of traditional Pashtun and modern American Dream, Gangster Friends, and Ode to Self — captured the hearts of many, offering a narrative of resilience, and self-reflection, resonating with audiences far beyond his home district.

For Alamshar, the process was never just about making music. It was about expressing realities that are often left unspoken. His lyrics, drawn from lived experience, reflect the balance between modern aspirations and cultural roots. In doing so, he has offered a rare perspective from a part of Pakistan that is seldom associated with contemporary music movements.

Observers say his success illustrates the transformative power of digital platforms. In the past, artists from remote areas struggled to gain visibility. Today, with a growing fan base, he is steadily building recognition by combining his personal struggles with an evolving sound. Over time, this self-guided approach began to pay off. His music, initially crafted in modest settings, found its

Why Sugar is Getting So Expensive in Pakistan

how many mills operate and how much sugar the country needs annually, how the supply chain functions, even export and import duties, what is meant by the "sugar mafia," and what practical policy responses could emerge from a sugar mafia. The aim is to move beyond slogans and conjecture and to clarify the mechanisms that delay a season's harvest into months of high prices for ordinary households.

HAIRAN MOMAND

The starting point is production. Pakistan's sugar comes almost exclusively from sugarcane, which is concentrated geographically in the irrigated plains of Punjab and Sindh, with smaller contributions from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Sugarcane is a bulky, perishable crop that must be processed quickly after harvest. The country's installed milling capacity yields tens of dozens of sugar mills operate across the provinces, with the largest and most modern in Punjab and Sindh. In a good year total domestic production of raw sugar can meet or even exceed domestic consumption, providing scope for exports. But production is inherently variable. Yields are dependent on the quality of seed varieties, irrigation and fertilization, timing of planting and harvest, pest

and disease incidence, fertilizer access and quality, and the economic incentives that determine whether farmers grow sugarcane or other crops. When yields are close to historical averages, mills operate timely and crushing capacity functions smoothly. But even small negative shocks on the production side — delays in fertilizer supply or spikes in fuel and power costs — can depress output sufficiently to create a chronic shortage for domestic consumption.

Demand is the other side of the equation. Per capita sugar consumption in Pakistan is relatively high compared to many other countries. Sugar is central to daily diets, many desserts, bakery products, confectionery and beverage manufacturing. Urbanization and rising incomes have increased demand for processed foods that use sugar. The formal industrial demand from large food and small businesses is complemented by the vast informal demand of households. Combined, this creates a steady and large annual requirement. When domestic production falls even modestly

or when supplies are not released into markets because of stockpiling, retail prices rise quickly. On the farm side there are structural vulnerabilities that reduce resilience. Sugarcane is water-intensive and labor-intensive; its profitability relative to alternative crops depends on assured and timely payments. In Pakistan, delays in cane payments to farmers have been a recurring grievance. When farmers face late or underpayments, they are incentivized to invest in productivity-enhancing inputs such as improved seed varieties, expanded fertilization, or pest control. The result is stagnating or declining yields over time. Water-intensive and labor-intensive sugarcane requires investment and coordination between agricultural departments, research institutes and the private sector.

Another dimension is the role of international markets and the cost of imported inputs — machinery, spare parts, certain fertilizers and fuel may be imported; if the rupee depreciates, these costs rise. International sugar prices are volatile. When global prices are low, exporting sugar may fetch a premium through swap or forward contracts, encouraging mills to export. Conversely, when global prices rise, imports to protect domestic consumers become more expensive. This interplay creates a policy dilemma: whether to prioritize stabilizing domestic prices at the cost of fiscal outlays or to let market forces determine whether to import or export.

Smuggling and cross-border trade complicate the picture. In times of domestic price differentials with neighboring markets, sugar may be diverted across borders, adding to domestic shortages. Effective customs controls and border security are required to limit such leakage, but enforcement is often weak. Capacity and political will.

What can be done? There is no single silver bullet. But a package of measures can reduce the frequency and severity of price spikes. First, transparency in stockpiles and trade is essential. Requiring mills and large traders to report into a secure national database, audited by an independent agency, would reduce information asymmetries. Second, strengthening strategic sugar reserves in line with pre-defined legal procedures for rapid seizure and disposal of illicit stockpiles would reduce the cost of manipulation. Third, improving support to farmers — timely payments, access to credit, insurance, and quality inputs and extension services — would raise yields and reduce supply-side volatility. Fourth, establishing a modest, professionally managed strategic sugar reserve — operated with clear rules for release — would smooth seasonal fluctuations. Fifth, depoliticizing regulatory agencies and insulating competition and food security bodies from political interference would improve policy credibility. Sixth, encouraging crop diversification in water-stressed regions would reduce reliance on a single, water-intensive commodity and enhance rural resilience. Finally, transparency in trade policy is vital. Decisions on export licenses and import tariffs should be based on verified stock and demand data, not on ad hoc considerations by industry associations. When exports are permitted, mills can be encouraged to ensure contractual

Oil extends gains on smaller-than-expected OPEC+ output hike

The issue of increasing taxes on fertiliser and pesticides also surfaced in June this year. However, following opposition from the PPP, Prime Minister Musharraf asked the IMF to defer the matter until the government's latest budget request is accepted. This will be the second time in three months that the IMF has altered its stance on an issue.

However, the IMF renewed focus on the matter, raising questions about the timing, given the severe

is already facing. The sector's growth has been slow, and as a result, overall economic growth will likely remain below target.

Meanwhile, the government's target of 2.2% for the IMF has said the IMF has projected economic growth for 2008 at 2.2%, less than 3.5% for the current fiscal

The IMF noted that recent floods have weighed on the outlook, particularly for the agriculture sector, even the damage to major cash crops. The lender continues to project relatively lower economic growth over the medium term. Sources said the IMF believes that effective implementation of economic policies can help the economy entrench macroeconomic stability, boost external competitiveness and improve the business environment for the private sector, supporting a gradual

Future policy rate cuts tied to flood impact, IMF review, says SBB Governor

he said, adding that monetary policy and fiscal coordination are showing "good progress."

Talking about the IMF programme, the SB governor shared that the programme is "progressing well," sharing at the central bank has outperformed its targets of foreign reserves.

As per the report, SB has increased its reserves purchasing about \$2 billion from the interbank market over the past three years, reversing its earlier role as a net seller. "This has a very well thought

continuation of gold's seven-week winning streak, during which the metal has repeatedly set new records. However, analysts now warn that the rally may be in early 2020 but on average will be within the goal in the current and next fiscal year.

The central bank chief's comments come ahead of the Monetary Policy Committee's next meeting on April 22. "The policy rate is positive — substantially positive — but inflationary pressure is still low and remains effective going ahead."

"The policy rate is positive — substantially positive — but inflationary pressure is still low and remains effective going ahead."

— The same strategy has helped make sure that the forex kitty is not impacted



Adnan Agar said gold's recent strength has stretched the rally significantly. "Gold is still standing at the same high. So far, it has set an all-time high of \$1,950, and it is around

Latest figures released by the Ministry of Commerce show total exports in July-August 2022 at \$5,107.80 million, slightly up from \$5,059.34 million in the same period

group, which contracted by 8.1% to \$57.57 million. Rice and sugar were the main drugs in food, while petroleum products declined both in value and volume.

Analyst noted that while textiles remain the backbone of Pakistan's exports, non-traditional sectors are steadily broadening their share.

"The rise in sports gear, leather, engineering, and medical instruments shows more balance in the export basket," one observer said.

Points on profit-taking

of 487 companies traded. Of these, 10 higher, 348 dropped and 1 remained unchanged. The Bank of Punjab was volume leader with trading 131.3 million shares, rising Rso.06 to close at R534.44, followed by K-Electric at 110 million shares, rising Rso.09 to close at R522 and Bank Makramah at 78.3 million shares, rising Rso.48 to close at R500. Foreign investors sold 1.5 million shares worth R5504 million.

Zverev dummied out of Shanghai Masters

TO STIFFEN conditions, the 54th-ranked Frenchman broke to set down a sat down on an increasingly rattled Zverev into submission. The German had injured his big toe towards the end of the third game with a footbale.

He nearly went ahead early in the second set, but Rinderknech recovered his composure and broke in the fourth game.

"I'm not very sure (how I managed to turn the game around)," he said.

"I thought like hell, tried everything. (Zverev) is such a good player... I knew it was going to be tough. It's a matter of time."

Starting in the second set, I was able to be offensive at the right moment, and I was able to win the momentum."

In the third set the 30-year-old broke in the third game.

Zverev had to pause to change his shoe because sweat was pouring out of them, as spectators yelled and wore cool packs on their foreheads to counter the suffocating humidity.

But switching footwear was not enough to save him.

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SHANGHAI: World number three Alexander Zverev was knocked out of the Shanghai Masters by France's Arthur Rinderknech 4-6, 6-4, 6-0 on Monday, leaving Novak Djokovic as the tournament's top-ranked player.

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But switching footwear was not enough to save him.

Israel PT cycling team to rename and disrupted by two protests

PARIS: The Israeli Cycling Team, which was named by the Israeli government, has been disrupted by two protests.

The decision has been made to rename and rebrand the team, moving away from its current Israeli identity."

The team owner, a Canadian-Israeli billionaire, said on Monday that it was changing its name to move away from its Israeli identity.

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Marquez to miss two races with fracture

PARIS: Newly-crowned world champion Marc Marquez was ruled out of the next two races after suffering a fracture and ligament injury to his right shoulder.

The Spanish rider was hurt in a high-speed crash on the first lap of the Indonesian MotoGP race.

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Cycling to training and second-hand shoes, Betis's Bellerin wins green card

BARCELONA: A Spanish footballer who has been training in second-hand shoes and cycling to work has been given a green card by his club.

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Salah under fire as Liverpool star loses his spark

LONDON: Mohamed Salah is Liverpool's top scorer, but he has been under fire for his performance in the Champions League.

Salah has scored three goals in the last three games, but he has been criticized for his lack of consistency.

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UEFA 'reluctantly' approves European league games in US, Australia

LAUSANNE: UEFA has reluctantly agreed to allow European football matches to be played in the United States and Australia.

The decision was made after a long period of negotiations between UEFA and the local football associations.

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